NEWS IN BRIEF.

Compiled from Various Sources LIV. CONGRESS.

(First Section)

In the senate, on the 16th, Mr. Stewart (pop., Nev.) in connection with his resolution of inquiry as to the effect the differences of exchange between gold standard countries and aliver standard countries has on agricultural and manufacturing industries of the United States, portrayed the dire calamities to result therefrom to the western states. Other proceedings were of a routine character..... In the house Delegate Ryan (Okla.) severely criticised Secretary Smith for dereliction of the University of the Record various memorials and petitions on the Caban and Armenian questions.

questions.

In the senate, on the 17th, the only proceeding that rose above the level of routine business was the reading of the president's message, submitted together with the Venezuela boundary correspondence. The message as a whole was well reserved, the stronger expressions being greeted with unrestrained applause. In the bouse the amendment to the rules providing for the appointment of three committees as elections, was after a stirring debate, adopted. The reading of the president's message evoked hearty applause. The document was referred to the committee on foreign affairs.

fairs.

In the senate, on the 18th, Mr. Chandler (rep., N. H.) introduced a bill appropriating \$100.0 %, 600 to attend then the military armament of the United States, which was referred to the sommittee on military affairs. Mr. Hill (dem., N. Y.) introduced a bill to repeal the law prohibiting officers of the late confederate states who had formerly held commissions in the United States army from being appointed to any position in the army or mavy, which was laid on the table in the house a bill introduced by Mr. Hitt (rep., Ill.) appropriating \$100,000 to pay the expenses of the commission suggested by the president to determine the true dividing line between Venezuela and British Guiana, was passed without a dissenting vote. A congurrent resolution was passed providing for a huiday recess from December 20 to January 2.

PERSONAL AND POLITICAL

The president sent to congress, on the 17th, the correspondence on the Venezuela boundary dispute called for by resolution several days before, and accompanied this with a vigorous message indicating that the Monroe doctrine will be upheld and enforced in its fullest tenor by the United States.

NELSON DRIGGS, the most famous counterfeiter of his time, died at his country home near Dayton, O., on the 17th, aged 86 years. He was at one time said to be worth \$1,000,000, made by exchanging bad money for good. He had spent many years in the penitentiary.

MRS. RELLA PARKER, colored, died in Indianapolis, Ind., on the 16th, at the age of 110 years. Some of her greatgreat-grandchildren are residents of that city. Her husband, now deceased, was captured in Africa and brought to this country early in the century.

MINISTER ANDRADE of Venezuela obtained a copy of the president's mes-sage, on the 17th, and cabled it via Cuba and Hayti to his government. Mr. Andrade's satisfaction was almost beyond the power of expression.

GEN. MOSES B. WALKER died at Kenton, O., on the 17th. Eleven days before he had been stricken with paralysis. Gen. Walker was born in 1819. He served throughout the war, and was conspicuous for his bravery in sixteen battles. He was the last man that left the bloody field of Chickamauga.

J. E. KITZMILLER, of Canton, one of the best-known horsemen in eastern Ohio, has assigned to J. P. Fawcett. Assets, estimated, \$80,000; probably exceeded by liabilities. THE senate has confirmed the nom-

ination of Allen Thomas, of Florida, to be envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to Venezuela. THE president sent to the senate on

the 18th the recess appointment of Willis T. Moore, of Illinois, to be chief of the weather bureau.

On the 18th Capt. Isaac Bassett, the veteran assistant doorkeeper of the United States senate, died is Washington city, of cancer of the stomach.

Gov. Rice of Michigan is quoted as saying: "While a dignified and just enforcement of the Monroe doctrine is to be desired and commanded, I am not prepared to say that it should be en-forced to the limit. The question now at issue is one which the great powers can be depended upon to decide upon its merits without resorting to arms." THE Monroe doctrine having never been perjetuated in any United States statutes, it was said, on the 18th, to be the purpose of the senate committee, when recommending the bill appropri-sting money for the Venezuela commission, to engraft the doctrine in the bill.

On the 18th, as soon as the reading of the journal in the house of representa-tives was concluded, a bill appropriat-ing \$100,000 to pay the expenses of the Venezuelan commission suggested by the president in his message, was of-fered by Mr. Hitt (rep., III.), and unani-

CRITICAL AND CARVALITIES.

Dumine a gale, on the 15th, 319 miles off Cape May, N. J., the German ship thems, bound for London with naphtha, took fire, and walle the crew were being transferred to the British steambeing transferred to the British steamship Tains, the oil exploded, blowing the Athena from the water. Capt. Hawk and 13 of the draw, were either killed by the explosion of drowned.

On the join, by the breaking of a coupling pin on a locombtive de the

MISSOURI STATE NZWS.

Bishop E. R. Hendrix of the Methodist church, south, has returned to his home in Kansas City from Japan, Corea and China. He brought a measure from Li Hung Chang, senior grand scoretary of state of China, to the American public. lic. It is now made public for the first

"Say to the American people for me," add Li Hung Chang, "to send over more men for the schools and hospitals, and I hope to be in a position both to ald and protect them."

Li Hung Chang had asked Bishop

Hendrix how many American mission aries were in China. "There are about six hundred," re-

plied the bishop.

"More are needed," said Li Hung Chang, and, in a moment, repeated the same words, "more are needed." He then expressed the great obligation of China to the American missionaries and to the Christian spirit which has sent them to China, and concluded by asking the bishop to convey the mes-

Prizes for Dairy Products. The state board agriculture will offer the following prizes on dairy products to be exhibited at the meetng of the State Dairy association in Columbia, January 14, all dairy products to be manufactured in Missouri and by the party making the exhibit:

Best sample butter, dairy print or roll, not less than I or more than 5 pounds, first premium, \$7; second, \$3. Best sample butter, oreamery print or roll, not less than 1 nor more than 5 pounds, first premium, \$7; second, \$3. Best tub creamery butter, not less than 20 pounds, first premium, \$7; second, \$3. Best cream cheddar cheese, not less than 10 pounds, first premium, \$7; second, \$3. Best paper on buttermaking in Missouri, limited to 2,000 words, \$10. Best separator, dairy size, certificate; best separator, factory size, certificate; best exhibit of dairy apparatus, exclusive of separators, certificate. and by the party making the exhibit: ratus, exclusive of separators, certificate.
Premiums to be awarded by a committee appointed by the State Dairy association and under such rules as they may prescribe. All articles for exhibition to be shipped to Levi Chubbuck, secretary of the State Dairy association, Columbia, Mo.

Iowa-Missouri Boundary. Attorney-General Frank Walker of Missouri went before the United States supreme court in Washington the other day and asked for the appointment of

a commission, consisting of Gen. James arding, of Missouri, and Peter J. Dey, of Iowa, and a third member, to be selected by the court, to adjudicate the boundary dispute between Decatur county, Ia., and Mercer county, Mo. The request was made in the form of a bill of equity.

University Student Honored. At a meeting of the law students of the state university, Columbia, S. R. Price, of Plattsburg, was elected historian of the department to represent the law class as a member of the staff of the "University Savitar," a college

annual to be issued next commence-Say It Was an Accident. Joseph Jeffries, aged 18, charged with the murder of his father. Beni, Jeffries. near Providence, Boone county, several

weeks ago, had his preliminary examination at Columbia. The defendant was acquitted, evidence showing that the killing was accidental. Bank Robbers Frustrated. An attempt was made to rob the bank at Deepwater, Henry county, the other

night, but the burglars could not force the inner safe, after getting into the vault. They fled to Clinton on stolen horses, abandoning the animals there and taking a night train. Mr. Clark Refused Damages.

At Nevada, in the case of E. W. Clark ainst Mrs. Caroline Simmons, for breach of promise, the jury was out fifteen minutes and returned a verdict for the defendant. Clark said his feelings had been badly hurt and set his damages at \$5,000. Hon. Bernard Poepping.

Hed. Bernard Poepping, aged 67 ayor of Carondelet for 12 ch years just previous to annexation to St. Louis, democratic candidate for secretary of state in 1868, and also served in the legislature, died recently.

Caused by Paralysis of the Brain. Dr. Charle, F, Wright died at his home in Springfield, of paralysis of the brain, aged & During the war he was a member of Co. K, Forty-ninth Ohio volunteers, cilisting as a drummer boy at the age of 14.

Mad-Music in St. Louis. The state iniversity glee, banjo and mandolin whb. Columbia, gave a concert at the exposition entertainment hall in St. Lyuis, and was one of the social events of the season. The club numbers 38.

The First egiment Missouri national guard, St. Lais, has offered to enlist 1,000 strong if wer should occur between Units States and Great Britain.

Fire, while the destroyed property to the by Walte to insurance, \$25,000.

Life Long Prostyterian

Tohis Lamitton died at Montgomery

City, age T He had been a citizen of Missouri a cars, of Montgomery City 35, and was life-long Presbyterian.



shine overhead With more than usual brightness; The hills and valleys

And jeweled sprays of frost and rime
To forest boughs are clinging;
And sweet the anthem and sublime
The Christmas bells are ringing.

It wakes old memories again;
The vanished past is nigh us;
We feel anew old bliss, old pain,
And long-lost friends are by us—
Friends who have reached the betterland,
Friends who have never faltered
In friendship e'en around us stand
With friends estranged and altered.

And voices silent long we hear
Sweet words of pardon speaking;
And other voices reach our ear,
Our words of pardon seeking;
The wrongs we met too trivial seem
To merit angry feeling;
The wrongs we did we greater deem
While Christmas bells are pealing.

And we forget to scheme and plan While Christmas bells are telling Of him who came in guise of man On earth to claim a dwelling.

The sweet bells sounding near and far Calm, holy thoughts are bringing, And Heaven and earth the nearer are While Christmas bells are ringing. -Chambers Journal



Mr. March gave an impatient little fling to the last sheet in a series of letters he had been writing. Short and stereotyped they were-all running much like this:

"DEAR -: Inclosed find a trifle in re membrance of the day, with good wishes for all.

Affectionately,
"John March."

"It's a kind of nuisance," went on Mr. March, as he gazed at five checks which lay on his desk with the letters, each one dashed off and left to dry while the others were written. "I don't know-" a grumbling coming into his tone-"really, I don't-why I should keep it up year after year. There are some things which might be considered outgrown as time goes on, and this is one

Still Mr. March had a feeling that it would not be discontinued, this every-Christmas offering of a small sum of money to each one of his kindred; it was too firmly based on old association. With the passage of the years he had grown apart from them; his interests and theirs had become widely separated, and yet he could not well have persuaded himself to sever this almost only link which bound him to the members of his own family.

It had begun soon after he had left home and come up to the great city in search of the fortune which had finally crowned his efforts. He had done well from the first; and, even now, as he gazed upon the five checks, he recalled with a slight warmth at his heart the first time he had sent home gifts of money. They had been smaller then; a dollar each to three cousins, five dollars each to his brother and sister. What a stir they had made in the family. John could easily realize the feeling of opulence which it spread over his home roof and that of his uncle living near. Later he had enlarged the gift. Brother, sister and cousins had married and set up homes of their own. None of them had, like himself, prospered abundantly; and when first John March had written out three checks for ten dollars and two for twenty-five, he still knew the rejoicing they would carry into families in which money WAS SCATCE.

the subject.

"Check, hey? Well, here," Mr. March

again opened his check-book and again

began rapidly filling a blank. "To the

"Patrick O'Toole,"-Mike paused a

"Hey?" Mr. March gave his chair a

moment as the name was written, then

proceeded-"five hun'erd dollars."

"Five hun'erd dollars to Patrick

erate tone of one taking special pains

"Jist phat I'm afther sayin', sur. Five hun'erd dollars to Patrick O'Toole,

an' five hun'erd dollars to Dennis

"Out of your damage money?" Mr.

order of-what's the name?"

to make himself understood

"What do you mean, Mike?"

He had rejoiced in doing it, all the more that a little effort and self-denial little jerk and gazed into the thin, had been necessary accompaniments of the gifts. That was many years ago. fringe of ill-kept red hair streaked with Time and circumstances had built up walls between him and his relatives, and the old heartiness of good will was O'Toole," repeated Mike in the delib

"It is really time I was letting it go." A thought crossed him of how good the bit of money still came to its recipients. "But I'm under no obligations to keep it up. I have made my money—they had the same chance. Their lives are O'Toole." what they have made them, just as peet help from me, and they have no breaths of astonishment.

He fretfully recalled the time when It had been represented to him that un-less the brother who still held the old homestead had a lift of a few hundred dollars the place would pass out of his hands. It had been given, and that was the end of any trouble from David. With his sister it had been worse. She and then been widowed. Meek and infid in her disposition, she had never directly applied to him except when

found exasperating.

Cousin Tom had been a scapegrace—always in trouble, always looking for some one to help him out and set him going again on the basis of many promises of better things. Cousin Harvey was the possessor of a large family and small everything else. It was not so very long since Mr. March had halped him out west, finishing his assistance with the suggestion that in future it would be agreeable that he should keep his difficulties to himself. Cousin Matilda had a sickly family; a wail from her on the subject of pressing doctor's bills was frequently heard.

"No," resumed Mr. March, as he folded one of the checks, "people have no right to inflict their misfortunes on some one else just because he has achieved success where they have failed. -That you, Mike?"

"It's mesilf, sor. Ready to shut up when you say the worrud.

"I'll take the key myself. I'm not quite done yet, but you needn't wait." Mike, however, showed no hurry to leave, but busied himself about the room with occasional glances at Mr. March.

"That'll do, Mike," at length said the gentleman, somewhat annoyed by the rattle of shovel and tongs, which seemed to show unusual excitement in Mike. a painful limp.

"If I might be thrubblin' ye jist a minnit, sur."

"Go on, Mike; no more lawsuits, hey?"

"No more o' thim. It's the funny man ye are, sor." Mike shook his head, his whole insignificant face beaming with delight. "It's only that bein' it's the blessed sayson comin' so near—Christmas eve to-morrow, glory be to God!—that I'm axin' a bit o' help o' ye, Musther March, to sind a bit of a prisint to me two brothers, Pat an' Dinnis."

"Oh! So you have relatives too, have you?"

Would it be mesilf 'u'd sit by me fire takin' me alse knowin' things was harder for thim nor for me? Be me to wow!! Musther March, I'm thinkin' it's the stingy ould rascal I'm bein' not to give thim more."

"Mike, you're a fool!" repeated Mr. March, but more quietly than before, and simply to fill in the pause.

"It'll be raichin' 'em the mornin' of the blissid Christmas day." Mike took of the blissid Christmas day." Mike took of the blissid Christmas day." "Goon, Mike; no more lawsuits, hey?"

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Comment of the second

in extremities, but was given to keeping her burdens and struggles before him in a way which he sometimes found exasperating.

Cousin Tom had been a scapegrace—wildering to Mike.

"Would ye be thinkin' I ought to be dividin' siquil wid 'em, bein' they're me own brothers, sur?" he began. "Go long with you!" said Mr. March,

with a laugh and a stamp of his foot.
"Mike," he continued, seriously, "if you do mean such a crasy thing, I hope you will hear me when I advise you against it. Why, man, you are getting old.
Your two thousand dollars is almost all
your dependence for your old age—for
you and your wife."

"It's the ould wife and mesilf 'll be airnin' this many a year yit, sur, place the Lord."

"But, Mike, think of the difference this money will make in your con With your simple ways it will make years of ease in your life. You can sit by your fire in your own snug hired do? They were his own feel blood. They were in one way as with your crippled limb."

The old man set his lips slightly to-gether as he gazed at his employer. Mr. March had once or twice noticed the mildness of the insignificant gray eyes looking out from under lids reddened by exposure; now the mildness was in-tensified by a smile of rare sweetness.

"Musther March," he said, "I know it all, none betther nor mesilf. I know fist how much aisier it is to sit by the He came slowly toward Mr. March—an fire nor to go out in the perishin cold undersized figure of an oldish man with wid the ache in me ould benes. But ye see, sur, they're me own flesh an' blood—Pat and Dennis. They feel the pinch and the hardness jist like mesilf.

Would it be mesilf 'u'd ait by me fire with an easy a

ou?"
"Thanks to the blissid saints I have, ment. "Think of it, sur! It'll be sor. An' so I'm comin' to ye to fix up makin' 'em feel rich! It'll bring the the bits o' paper that'll carry some shmile to their faces, and the laugh to

dded to it another elphon Rich? There was not amilies to whom such a

light from youngsters. He had for he had been poor himself, lo "One thousand dollars. Two hundred dollars."

There was a little exe it. Mr. March left his chair and walks up and down the floor. How had been that he had never before realise

Him own flesh and blood, stood to him as of far less

were than food, ele Yes, it could. It to his very self, his

a. He'll feel so

You really have

Uncle William bought-for your Freddy demurred a little, but the hospital, and then Freddy's lay down to take a little map out of her ears the din that he gathering there since daybrank liam Henry Siviter, in Fusic.



Mrs. John of (controlaty)

Nothing Late 1st P Not at all . My off door of the

money to thim two-the lectle mite of i 'em, God bless 'em! on His own birth a scrap that manes so much." Mike day! It'll also the ache that no one laughed aloud as if in great relish of but the blissid Lord an' thimsilves Lnows of."

Yes, there was a radiance added to the gentlehess in the faded eyes—a radiance written by a joy of which few in this self-seeking world know the

Without saying more Mr. March wrote the checks, to which the old man added his tremulous signature. As the sound of the limping footsteps died away in the hall, Mr. March turned again to the five checks on his desk.

"They look small—yes, they do."

Mechanically he added a cipher to the
one nearest him. "That looks better."

cipher was added to each check One hundred. Two hundred and fifty. They'll all have to be written over."

Mr. March leaned his head on his hands, less in a hurry to get home than he had thought. The glorified see of the old servitor was still before his mind's eye. Mr. March doubted

if ever in his life he had looked into a appier one.
"Cutting down his bit of a nest-egg so—the poor old simpleton! Like the likes o' me be gettin' five hun'erd

"Where, sure enough! Why-" Mrc. March gased at the old janitor with a comical mixture of amasement and friendly contempt. "Why-you old-But it was with a softened smile that the rich merchant thought it. Then his mind ran over his own affairs. fooil"

Mike stood quietly with a broad grin on his face.

"Do you mean to say," went on the gentleman, "that you're going to give such amounts out of the two thousand and the initial figure would not be one.